THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"For the Lord God hath said that: Inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments ye shall prosper in the land; and inasmuch as ye will not keep my commandments ye shall be cut off from my presence." BOOK OF MORMON, 2 NEPHI 4: 4.

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PERILOUS TIMES*

ELDER JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

I HAVE BEEN MADE very happy while listening to the remarks of the brethren who have spoken, for the nature of the testimonies and instructions has been very timely.

It is pleasing to know that the Latter-day Saints are loyal as a people to the Government, to the Constitution, and that they observe the law. Moreover, it is well to have our attention called to the duties and responsibilities that are ours as members of the Church, and to have the warning voice raised from time to time against the evils that prevail in the world, so that we may be prepared to resist them.

I take it for granted that every member of the Church sincerely believes that we are living in the last days, and that most of those who are not of us, who profess to believe in the scriptures and in our Redeemer, hold the same view. This being true, I think we will have to agree also that we are living in perilous times; for the prophets of old who had their vision opened so that they could see our times have spoken of these conditions.

MODERN CONDITIONS FORESHADOWED

Isaiah, Peter, Paul, and even the Saviour Himself, have spoken of these things. Paul, when writing to Timothy of the last days, had this to say:

*Address delivered at the closing session of the Ninety-eighth Semi-annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., October 9th, 1927.

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats. . . .

And he again says:

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

Without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.

WORDS OF WESTERN PROPHETS

It appears that there is very little lacking in this prophecy that might have been said of the evils of our times; and the Saviour declared that the days before His second coming were to be like the days before the flood. The prophets who dwelt on this continent had the same knowledge revealed to them and have proclaimed it in the Book of Mormon:

But, behold, in the last days, or in the days of the Gentiles—yea, behold all the nations of the Gentiles and also the Jews, both those who shall come upon this land and those who shall be upon other lands, yea, even upon all the lands of the earth, behold, they will be drunken with iniquity and all manner of abominations—

And when that day shall come they shall be visited of the Lord of Hosts, with thunder and with earthquake, and with a great noise, and with storm, and with tempest, and with the flame of devouring fire.—2 Nephi 27:1, 2.

"CARNAL SECURITY"

Then he adds this:

Woe unto them that turn aside the just for a thing of naught and revile against that which is good, and say that it is of no worth! For the day shall come that the Lord God will speedily visit the inhabitants of the earth; and in that day that they are fully ripe in iniquity they shall perish.

But behold, if the inhabitants of the earth shall repent of their wickedness and abominations they shall not be destroyed, saith the Lord of Hosts. . . .

For the kingdom of the devil must shake, and they which belong to it must needs be stirred up unto repentance, or the devil will grasp them with his everlasting chains, and they be stirred up to anger, and perish;

For behold, at that day shall he rage in the hearts of the children of men, and stir them up to anger against that which is good.

And others will he pacify, and lull them away into carnal security,

that they will say: All is well in Zion; yea, Zion prospereth, all is well—and thus the devil cheateth their souls, and leadeth them away carefully down to hell.

And behold, others he flattereth away, and telleth them there is no hell; and he saith unto them: I am no devil, for there is none—and thus he whispereth in their ears, until he grasps them with his awful chains, from whence there is no deliverance.—2 Nephi 28: 16-18, 19-22.

I have read these scriptures to show that those ancient prophets, who saw our times, have spoken, not particularly for the benefit of the people of their day, but for the benefit of the people living in the days of which these prophecies speak. The world now is in just that condition declared by Nephi and by Paul. The people are denying the Lord and His atonement and the resurrection of the dead, and they are declaring that there is no personal devil—Lucifer—who was cast out of heaven for his rebellion. Nor are the Latter-day Saints altogether free from these evils and these false teachings that prevail so generally in the world. We must not think that these things do not apply to us; for, unless we walk in paths of righteousness and in harmony with the revelations from the Lord, we too will be under condemnation. It is in Zion, according to this prophecy, that people are to feel the "carnal security", that all is well, and Nephi has spoken words of warning to us:

Therefore, woe be unto him that is at ease in Zion!

Woe be unto him that crieth: All is well!

Yea, woe be unto him that hearkeneth unto the precepts of men, and denieth the power of God, and the gift of the Holy Ghost!

MIRACLES DENIED

Nephi further predicted that in these days there would be churches which are built up, not unto the Lord:

And they shall contend one with another; and their priests shall contend one with another, and they shall teach with their learning, and deny the Holy Ghost, which giveth utterance.

And they deny the power of God, the Holy One of Israel; and they say unto the people: Hearken unto us, and hear ye our precept; for behold there is no God today, for the Lord and the Redeemer hath done his work, and he hath given his power unto men;

Behold, hearken ye unto my precept; if they shall say there is a miracle wrought by the hand of the Lord, believe it not; for this day he is not a God of miracles; he hath done his work.

Does it not appear that this prophet has truly depicted the conditions in the world to-day, both in the churches and among mankind generally?

NEED FOR PRAYERFUL DILIGENCE

It seems to me as I reflect upon these things that it is perhaps a little more difficult for a man to be righteous to-day than it has

been in some other periods of the world's history. I think this because of modern conditions with all the temptations and evils that now confront us at every turn. If this be the case then Latter-day Saints should be just a little more prayerful, a little more diligent, and should seek the Lord just a little more closely, that we may be kept free from all the evils that now prevail. The fact that we are baptized and have a standing in good fellowship in the Church will not insure for us our salvation. Evils may come upon us, for the Lord has said by way of warning: "Therefore let the church take heed and pray always, lest they fall into temptation."

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

During the meetings of this conference some of our duties as members of the Church have been pointed out. It would be impossible, in the limited time that is ours, to mention all the duties and responsibilities which rest upon us, and the remarks we make have to be more or less of a general character.

Our attention has been called very forcefully to the keeping of the law of tithing and the observance of the Word of Wisdom. I would like to call attention in a general way to the fact that we have received many commandments, and it is our duty to keep them all. I wonder if we are all faithfully paying our tithing and observing the Word of Wisdom. I wonder if we are praying in our homes, if we are teaching our children in the spirit of prayer to approach our Father in heaven; if, in the family circle, we remember this obligation and are faithful to this great commandment—for it is a great commandment. I wish each would ask himself the question: Am I seeking the Lord in secret chambers, and thanking Him for the many blessings I have received? I wonder if we faithfully observe the Sabbath day to keep it holy. There are very few among the people generally in this land who do, and the Lord will not forget the breaking of this law. I wonder if we have forgotten the Fast day which has been set apart to be observed by the members of the Church. Do we remember the Fast offerings for the poor? There are so many things that I cannot take time to mention all.

GREATER LIGHT—GREATER CONDEMNATION

We are to be judged according to our works, and we have before us the law. If we fail to observe it, if we reject it or prove ourselves unfaithful, we shall not receive the blessings, for the Lord has said it. We have the Gospel as it has been restored in its fulness, and if we do not observe the commandments of the Lord we are without excuse, "For of him unto whom much is given much is required; and he who sins against the greater light shall receive the greater condemnation." We should be most diligent in our observance of the Fast meetings, the Sacrament

meetings and our Priesthood meetings. I regret to say that in many of the wards of the Church there is a falling off in the attendance at the Sacrament service, which is, in my judgment, the greatest and most important meeting in the Church. We cannot afford to fail in this important duty and in the other important duties which are upon us. Our light is set upon a hill, which gives light to all the world, and we should let it shine so that people can see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven.

I pray that all Latter-day Saints will prove themselves to be humble, faithful and willing to serve the Lord, keeping all His commandments as they come to us through those who have the right to speak. This I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ACTIVITIES IN THE CONFINES OF CANADA*

ELDER CHARLES H. HART

OF THE FIRST COUNCIL OF SEVENTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN MISSION

DURING the fifteen minutes allotted to me I am very anxious that the spiritual feast which we have thus far enjoyed shall be continued.

I recognize the practical value of the principal theme of this conference—law enforcement. The Dominion of Canada is a country of law enforcement. They have celebrated this year the Diamond Jubilee, or the Jubilee Anniversary of Confederation. They revere the fathers of Federation as we revere the fathers of our Constitution. They are not unmindful of the comparison between the United States and Canada in matters of law enforcement. My defense has been that the United States is great in potentialities, in practical statesmanship, in self-government and in good common sense, and that it is just a question of a little time when the laxity of law enforcement in the States will be remedied. There have grown up too many technical refinements in the administration of the criminal law, and those refinements and technicalities will have to be swept away without impairing the valuable system of judge-made laws that exist in the United States.

Canada can give us an example of law and order on the Sabbath day. No newspaper is published nor even distributed on that day, that I have been able to learn of in my sojourn there.

In speaking of the missionary work in Canada: We do not have the background that exists in many of the missions of the United States—the background of from five to eight thousand members

*Address delivered at the fourth session of the Ninety-eighth Semi-annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., October 8th, 1927.

to support the missionary work. The statistics of the Dominion give our Church credit for having nearly twenty thousand members, about ten thousand of whom are located in the stakes of the Alberta Province. I do not know just where the other ten thousand may be scattered. Certainly there are not more than one thousand of them in the mission over which I have the honour of presiding. We do feel the assistance of the few we have, scattered as they are among the millions of population there, in supporting the cause. We have young people newly converted to the Church who will stand upon the street corners and with fine courage give a reason for the faith and knowledge which they have. At one of our conferences we called forward two young converts, one from the Northwestern States Mission and one from Montreal. Each of them gave a telling speech describing their conversion and the great joy that had come to him as a member of the Church.

COMPARISON SHOWS PROGRESS

We are building upon the work of all those who have gone before—the work there of President Grant and Elders George Albert Smith, Orson F. Whitney and Joseph Fielding Smith, all of whom have made tours through that mission. We are building upon the work of President Nephi Jensen, President Joseph Quinney, Jr., and the hundreds of Elders and sisters who have served there during the past decade. We are finding very many encouraging symptoms. In going through the districts of the mission last month I discovered a marked contrast between conditions existing now and those of three months before. Instead of the conferences assembling in a private home, as was the case in the city of London, Ontario Province, a city of some sixty-five thousand people, we had two or three times the number of people in attendance in a public hall, and some of them had arisen as early as five-thirty in the morning and had traveled long distances to be in attendance at that conference. We have no meeting-houses of our own there, but we have about reached a stage when it will be proper to have the stabilizing influences that will come to the people by owning their own meeting-houses. I am sure the Presidency will be just as generous with the Canadian Mission as with any of the other missions. They have indicated that. They have given token of that in spending the large sums of money necessary to build the Temple at Cardston.

FASTING AND PRAYER

We have a very find body of Elders and sisters in that mission, although few in number. They are of the same quality as described by the brethren of the other missions. It will save much time for me to simply incorporate in my remarks here the same words of just praise that have been given the missionaries in each

of the other missions by their presidents during this conference. These Elders and missionary sisters are of the same cloth, so to speak, that these other missionaries come from. They manifest good zeal, good spirituality in all they have encountered, and when they have made anything a matter of fasting or of prayer, the end desired has been attained. That was the case in the matter of having the privilege to use a Young Men's Christian Association pool to baptize in. As they went back after their fasting and prayer, without any argument, they were accorded the privilege denied them by the same man shortly before their fasting and their prayer.

We have experiences of interest, adventures upon every street corner where we hold meetings; and we are holding many street meetings during the summer months. The period is very short during which it is practicable to hold such meetings in that cold climate. Next month, if not this, will surely terminate the holding of street meetings for the year.

A WELL-INFORMED DEFENDER

While upon an elevator in the Queen's Hotel, going to luncheon, by invitation of a member of the Rotary Club, I was introduced to "Jim Hughes", as they called him in Rotarian parlance, but no less a person than Dr. James L. Hughes of Toronto. He, knowing that I was from Salt Lake City, said to me in a voice loud enough to be heard by all those in the elevator:

"Are you a member of the 'Mormon' Church?"

In a tone just as emphatic I declared that I was. I did not know what was coming, but he followed his question and the answer thereto by saying:

"Mr. Hart, do you know that I was the first man in Canada to do justice through the Press to your people?"

He had written a splendid article for the *Canadian Magazine* in the April number, 1904, under the caption "My Misconceptions of the 'Mormon' People" or some such heading. He had visited the Tabernacle. His interest in the subject started from an acquaintance with one individual, Sister Susa Young Gates. He told me that after his article was published a preacher said to him: "Dr. Hughes, I am ashamed of you for writing the article you did." And he said: "I retorted to the minister: 'I should think you preachers would be ashamed after all the fibbing you have done and are doing against the 'Mormon' people. I'll tell you what I will do. We will get on the train and go to Salt Lake City, and if you can find a single misrepresentation in that article I will pay the expenses for both of us. But if you are unable to find a single thing in which I have misrepresented the case, then you pay the expenses. Now, come on, let us get on the train." The preacher would not accept the challenge.

(*Continued on page 141*)

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1928

EDITORIAL

EDWARD H. ANDERSON

WE HAVE LOST a great man! Edward H. Anderson is dead. In his sixty-ninth year, on February 1st, he passed into the life beyond the veil.

Brother Anderson's life-story is one of incessant activity in behalf of the Church. He was Editor of the *Improvement Era*; member of the General Board of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association; Clerk of the General Conference of the Church; member of the Granite Stake Presidency; author of many books and pamphlets, among them *A Brief History of the Church* and *The Life of Brigham Young*. He had been President of the Scandinavian Mission, and had held from his youth a variety of positions in the wards and stakes of his residence. He filled many civil positions. At one time he was a member of the Utah State Legislature.

Strong convictions coupled with tenderness characterized Brother Anderson's nature. He led men by the certainty of his faith in God; and gave them renewed life and strength by love and encouragement. Bashful beginners, with first poems or stories, were made forceful contributors by kindly and helpful advice. His knowledge of the Gospel was accurate and extensive; his critical judgment sound. He was capable and wise. He was trusted. The gift of friendship was his. Above all, he was a true Latter-day Saint. The Church mourns his passing.

Edward H. Anderson was a product of "Mormonism." His character was made and shaped by faithful obedience to the requirements of the Gospel. Those who conform their lives to divine law, increase in strength and beauty of charater, and when they pass on, it is as if a light had gone out. That such lives in untold numbers come out of "Mormon" living is an unanswerable evidence of the truth inherent in the message of Joseph Smith.

Brother Anderson served greatly and lived well. Friends stand about his bier; enemies he had none. He will enter fully prepared into active labour in the spirit-world. To his faithful wife and family and to us, his friends who loved him, he has left a precious memory.—W.

CHANGES AT THE LIVERPOOL OFFICE

Elder Seth W. Pixton, the successful Secretary of the European Mission, has been honourably released to return home. After a trip on the Continent, he will sail from Cherbourg on March 13th. The members of the European Mission, and of the British Mission in particular, whom he has served intelligently and well, extend to Elder Pixton their grateful and loving appreciation of his untiring labours in behalf of the work of the Lord in Europe, and say to him: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," may the Lord reward you richly.

Elder Ralph V. Chisholm, formerly Assistant Secretary, has been appointed Secretary and Treasurer of the European Mission, and Elder Weston W. Taylor has been appointed Assistant Secretary and Accountant. These devoted brethren stand ready to serve, with all their might, the members and missionaries of the European Mission.—W.

BLUEPRINTS OF THOUGHT

The story is told of an architect who was conspicuous for his many debts and unsuccessful business dealings.

Against one wall of his dust-laden, combination business office and work-room stood an old-fashioned, rickety, draftsman's desk with battered, carved legs. Between this pitiable piece of furniture and another wall stood a feeble rack of venerable age upon which were piled and around which were heaped unnumbered blueprint rolls, some of which, judging from their curled edges, faded hue and finger-smeared appearance, dated back more than a decade; indifferently thrown in the rack and on the heap that steadied its shaky legs were others whose appearance marked them as being of recent origin; and all variations between these two extremes were there.

Save for a bare living, a scanty stock of none too good clothes, a superabundance of debts and creditors, and some office furniture—if it may be termed such—the blueprints were all that this architect had to show for years of toil. Ideas and bungalows, prospects and monuments, plans and great buildings—these were his stock-in-trade; they were his creations—but, they were all in the blueprints; they had never been coupled with action; they had never been made into steel, stone and plaster. Those blueprints were the architect's good intentions, but they had never become realities.

An indifferently good story, but it has its application: It is characteristic of humanity mentally to harbour good intentions. But it is better to execute one such than to conceive a thousand. It is more praiseworthy to help one blind man on his way than to

carry on a "mental" campaign to aid the blind of all the world. It is more productive to till, sow and water one square rod of ground than to cherish visions of some vast, but never materializing project. It is more commendable to conquer one harmful habit than to dream of throwing off all human weaknesses at some indefinite future. It is more upbuilding to know and rigorously keep one commandment of the Lord, than to be familiar with them all, and to observe them only at convenient seasons.

The tithing one expects to pay next week or next year does not bring with it the rich blessings promised by the Lord for compliance with this law. The tea and coffee, the liquor and tobacco, that one resolves to stop using to-morrow, or the day after, cannot bring the saving in money, the improved health and the greater spiritual strength that are sure to come from such action. The tracting that a missionary plans to do, the people to whom he will surely deliver his message, when the weather is better, cannot result in the joy and satisfaction that naturally follow such service. The gossip about one's neighbour that one determines to ignore and not to pass on, next time, cannot make for that bigness of character that is so admired in all who have learned so to conduct themselves.

The First Principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ—faith, repentance, baptism by immersion for the remission of sins, and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost—that one intends to comply with, at a more convenient time, cannot possibly raise up a man at the great and last day, and entitle him to the greatest of all blessings—eternal life and progression in the presence of God, our Father.

To generalize—Blessed be the man who does one worthwhile deed to-day instead of intending to do a thousand noble deeds at some time that is always just out of reach. Blessed be the man who keeps his work behind him, the man who does, who acts, creates, produces—the man who can look back at the close of each day and say: This much have I accomplished. That which we intend to do has no value until it is done; and cursed will be the man who everlastingly intends to perform deeds of valour that never are performed.

Plans are necessary; dreams have their place; thoughts must precede actions; resolves are commendable; good intentions should be encouraged; but all these, like the blueprints of the architect, are without value, unless it be that they lead to acts, deeds—realities! Beware of good intentions unfulfilled—they are the worthless blueprints of thought.

RICHARD L. EVANS.

DIED IN THE MISSION FIELD

WE RECORD with deep sorrow that on January 24th, 1928, Elder

P. S. Christiansen, Editor of the *Skandinaviens Stjerne*, the Danish Mission magazine, died suddenly as he was on his way to attend a meeting of the Copenhagen Branch. During his thirty-seven years of Latter-day Saint Church membership, Elder Christiansen was ever active in spreading knowledge concerning the restored Gospel; and death found him in the mission field, bearing witness to the truth. In his native Denmark he did much to further the cause of the Church, and in Utah he influenced many for good by his editorial work in *Bikuben*, the Dano-Norwegian newspaper of the Church. He was joyfully engaged in his missionary labours when the last earthly call came to him at the age of sixty-six. He was a generous, true and kindly soul. The world needs many like him. He has earned a great reward. May the Lord comfort those who now mourn the loss of husband and father.—W.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE AT LONDON

The meeting-room of the South London Branch, Camberwell, Newroad, was the scene, on Thursday, February 16th, of the fourth of a series of District Presidents' and Missionary Conferences that have been held from the north to the south of England under the direction of President John A. Widtsoe. To this last inspirational gathering came missionaries from the five most southerly Districts of the British Mission. Three meetings were held, beginning shortly after ten o'clock a.m., and terminating a few minutes before eleven o'clock p.m., the time being broken only by two short intermissions.

Forty-eight missionaries attended the convention, including President Widtsoe; his wife, Sister Leah D. Widtsoe, President of the Relief Society in the European Mission; Elder Ralph V. Chisholm, Secretary and Treasurer of the European Mission; Elder Richard L. Evans, Associate Editor of the *Millennial Star*, and the following District Presidents and Traveling Elders: Birmingham District—President Heber J. Matkin and Elders Kenneth H. Smith, Rulon F. Thompson, Percy F. Hill, Laurence Peterson, Ezra M. Parry, Thomas E. Paskins, Alva L. Ritchie, Arthur Coleman, R. LeRoy Fletcher, Louis W. Sanders, Cecil H. Toone; Bristol District—President Alma C. Tranter and Elders Frank S. Cragun, Franklin J. Newman, Reese R. Parker, Spencer A. Harris, A. Wesley Davis and Ernest A. Hall; London District—President Clinton L. Mills and Elders June E. Bartlett, N. Homer Hansen, Roscoe E. Evans, Harold W. England, Elmer D. White, Joseph F. Parrish, Robert D. Buchanan, Milford A. Piggott, James H. Cantwell, J. Willard Harmon and Wilford N. Hemmert; Norwich District—President Alexander J. Bryan and Elders

Earle R. Webb, Horald G. Clark, David W. Sutton, H. Grant Vest, Douglas H. Petersen, Adrian L. Orme and Albert Brain, and Sister Annie E. Brain; Welsh District—President Nathaniel E. Parry and Elders Noble L. Chambers, Hilliard L. Rose and David M. Davis.

Each of the four conferences that have recently been held have been motivated by the same spirit, and have been guided and conducted in the interest of diligent and efficient service in advancing the latter-day work of the Lord, but aside from the common ties and ever-present influence that give to all Latter-day Saint gatherings a uniformly satisfying and uplifting power, the conferences have been decidedly different, each being characterized by some distinctive trend of thought and by the emphasizing of some particular phase of missionary endeavour.

As in previous gatherings, each missionary was given ample opportunity to express his views and to ask questions. As formerly, also, questions were proposed by the Mission President and briefly answered verbally and individually by the missionaries. A strikingly uniform response came in answer to these four queries:

1. What is the outstanding spiritual difficulty of this day?
2. What method of presenting the Gospel have you found most effective?
3. What principle of the Gospel seems to have the greatest appeal to people not of our faith?
4. How do you feel toward your work?

Indifference toward all things religious, confusion, contention, pleasure-seeking, disbelief in modern revelation, disbelief in the necessity for divine authority, atheism and skepticism, difficulty in moving people to action, and the fetters of tradition were mentioned with frequency as the outstanding spiritual difficulties of the age.

The better-known methods of presenting the Gospel, such as door-to-door tracting, street tracting, street meetings, cottage meetings, hall meetings, public lectures, conversations in travel, personal dealings with shop-keepers, tradesmen and business men, etc., were mentioned in answer to the second question, but the basic, underlying thought throughout the remarks on this subject, which was probably the outstanding message of the conference, was this: The work of the missionary must be intensive and thorough, rather than extensive and haphazard.

The advisability of tracting and retracting at frequent and regular intervals over a small territory for an indefinite number of times was demonstrated. It was shown, however, that this does not necessarily mean that this procedure is to be carried out in territory that has been worked over for many decades—sections that have been infrequently visited by the traveling ministry of Christ's Church of this dispensation should be sought.

The necessity for leaving records of the work, of the friends made and of the experiences of departing missionaries was emphatically pointed out. The reason for this is obvious. Much time and labour may be saved, and better results obtained, if a missionary has access to that which will enable him to begin where his predecessor left off, instead of beginning where his predecessor began. It was made clear that it is not required that each District be thoroughly canvassed every year, but it is desired that the labour be efficient and that it bring about tangible results.

Salvation for the dead, linked with baptism and other saving and essential ordinances of the plan of salvation, was most frequently stated to be the principle of the Gospel that had the greatest appeal to strangers.

Health hints, suggestions for care of the body and general rules for eating, sleeping and working were given by Sister Widtsoe. Natural foods, plenty of water, little pastry, plenty of sleep—but not too much—meat sparingly and regularity in all things were advised. In short, Sister Widtsoe's message was: Keep the Word of Wisdom.

Appreciation for the privilege of being called into the service of the Master, joy and satisfaction in the work, a desire to continue therein, and testimonies that God lives, that Jesus is the Christ, that Joseph Smith was a prophet divinely chosen and appointed to again establish the Church of Jesus Christ on earth and to restore the knowledge of and authority to administer the principles and ordinances of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, were expressed in responses to the fourth query.

A summary of the day's discussion, a call to further good works and a closing blessing and prayer by President Widtsoe brought to a fitting close the final meeting on this occasion of rejoicing and mutual betterment.

ACTIVITIES IN THE CONFINES OF CANADA

(*Concluded from page 135*)

We need such information as that, and such friends to remove prejudice. It is not an unusual thing to find people who at first will rave at the mention of the "Mormon" people; they will decline to accept a tract, will refuse to hold a conversation with you, but by being a little patient with them, so as to get our cause before them, they soon grow apologetic. It is a rather good sign when they are so intense in their feelings to begin with, because after we get the truth to them they are more friendly than they perhaps otherwise would be.

The missionaries there are labouring hard. For example, one of the Elders purchased a second-hand car, and used it as a means

of conveyance by day and as a bedroom by night, for himself and his companion. They presented picture slides, giving archaeological and geological support to the Book of Mormon, to 2,500 people scattered through the eastern part of the Dominion. They traveled 3,725 miles and held fifty-seven meetings.

A MONUMENT TO THE PROPHET

We had a choice treat in meeting at the Memorial Cottage. We had the honour of warming our feet at the same hearth where the Prophet as a child had been warmed, whose destiny was to take part in the greatest single achievement of the nineteenth century—the coming forth of the Gospel and the restoration of the Holy Priesthood. The monument to Joseph Smith is certainly a very beautiful creation. Those who had to do with it are to be congratulated. The one hundred tons of granite are certainly in very beautiful form.

It is a matter of regret to me to-day that I could not attend the unveiling of the monument to our Salt Lake boys of the 145th Artillery. I stood the other evening viewing the "Mormon" Battalion monument, and it seemed to me that it was a beautiful creation, and I was impressed much as the poet Vachel Lindsay was impressed, as recorded by his traveling companion, who gave a description of the Canadian Temple by electric light and moonlight. For an artistic treat one should visit the monument not only by day but also by night.

COMMEMORATION AT CUMORAH

We were thrilled at Cumorah in celebrating the one-hundredth anniversary of the delivery of the golden plates. We had the honour there to meet President Grant and several of the mission presidents. Those who sang, those who prayed, and those who spoke did so in proper appreciation of the historic significance of that occasion. The missionaries, two hundred of them, some of whom had traveled a thousand miles to be in attendance, at the invitation of President Grant, were greatly impressed. I am sure they received a spiritual elevation that will richly repay them for the journey. They made that journey, many of them, by the "missionary express", and they were not so modest as not to remember the scriptural passage: "Ask and ye shall receive." They were cheerfully driven by men who acknowledged that they were not in the habit of picking up people upon the highway, but it seemed to be different to them on this occasion. The Elders preached the Gospel as they traveled, and they received the appreciation of people of distinction who have driven them for hundreds of miles.

We were thrilled by holding the exercises in the Sacred Grove. I look forward to the time when that will be made a Mecca more than it is now. I anticipate that the desire to visit there will

increase from year to year and that they who visit will receive spiritual exhilaration, as they contemplate the glories and wonders of the great event that occurred there more than a hundred years ago.

My time has expired. May the Lord bless us, my brethren and sisters, and help us to put into this work all it is entitled to receive, that this glorious message may go forth to all the world, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Releases and Departures: Elder Edward M. Bunker, who has laboured in the Hull and Liverpool Districts, has been honourably released and sailed for his home in America aboard the *Albertic* from Liverpool on February 18th. The following missionaries have been honourably released and sailed for their homes in America aboard the *Leviathan* from Southampton on February 21st: Elder Orson H. Berrett, who has laboured as Traveling Elder and President in the Newcastle District; Elder Richard D. Hooper, who has laboured as Traveling Elder and President in the Hull District; and Elder Howard A. Stokes, who has served as a Traveling Elder in the Newcastle District.

Branch Conferences: Of the Watford Branch, London District, on February 19th, The theme "What Jesus Taught" was ably treated by members of the Sunday School in the forenoon session. Elder Ralph V. Chisholm, from Mission headquarters, District President Clinton L. Mills, Elder June E. Bartlett, District Clerk; and Traveling Elders Elmer D. White and J. Willard Harmon were the speakers at the conference.

Of the Woodhouse Branch, Sheffield District, on February 19th. The meetings were marked by an unusually large attendance. President Cecil B. Kenner and Traveling Elders LaMont A. Bentler, Ralph A. Garner and Richard K. Knight were present.

Doings in the Districts: *London*—President and Sister John A. Widtsoe, from Mission headquarters in Liverpool, attended meetings in the Holloway and South London Branches, London, on Sunday, February 19th. Commendation was expressed by the Mission President for the interest in the latter-day work of the Lord in these two Branches.

Manchester—A farewell social was held at the Oldham Branch Chapel on Monday evening, February 20th, in honour of Elder Golden W. Stewart, who has been transferred to the Scottish District. An excellent program was rendered and enjoyed by a goodly number of members and friends. President Kenneth A.

Nielson addressed the Trafalgar Square "U. M. Men's Class" at Ashton-under-Lyne on February 19th. "What 'Mormonism' has for the World" was his text.

Sheffield—A farewell social was given on February 21st in the Sheffield Chapel by members of the Sheffield and Woodhouse Branches in honour of Elder LaMont A. Bentler, who has been transferred to the Manchester District. An appropriate and entertaining program was rendered.

Ulster—On Wednesday, February 15th, a farewell party was held in the Belfast Branch hall for Elder Kendall D. Garff, who has been honourably released as President of the Ulster District. A record crowd of members and friends was in attendance and gave Elder Garff a splendid farewell.

Welsh—Elder Noble L. Chambers, who has been recently transferred to the Manchester District, was given a farewell social in Pengam, Monmouthshire, on February 14th. A report meeting for the missionaries of the Welsh District was held in Cardiff on February 20th. Instructions were received from President Nathaniel E. Parry. The missionaries bore fervent testimonies concerning the divinity of the work in which they are engaged.

DEATHS

ALLEN—Sister Sophia Allen, a faithful member of the Church in the Manchester Branch, Manchester District, passed away on February 15th at the age of seventy-six. Funeral services were held under the direction of President Kenneth A. Nielson on Tuesday, February 28th. Elder J. Rulon Doxey dedicated the grave.

WILLMOTT—Sister Alice M. B. Willmott, of the Norwich Branch, Norwich District, passed away on February 14th at the age of sixty years. Sister Willmott had been a faithful member of the Church since her baptism in 1898. Funeral services were held at the Latter-day Saints' Chapel, 60 Park Lane, Norwich, on Saturday, February 18th, under the direction of President Alexander J. Bryan, who also dedicated the grave.

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